Mini refineries by ONGC

2472. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC proposes to set up mini-rcfincrics near exploration sites and other places;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such refineries had been commissioned by ONGC during the last year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A skid-mounted mini-refinery was commissioned on 3.9.2001 by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited at Tatipaka in Andhra Pradesh with an installed capacity of 0.08 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA).

Dismantling of price control in petroleum sector

2473. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have dismantled the price control in the petroleum sector w.e.f. 1st April, 2002; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to sec that the fluctuations in the global crude oil price do not frequently effect the prices of petrol or diesel in the domestic market after the beginning of new era?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In a free market scenario, while the normal fluctuations in the

international oil market would be passed on in the domestic prices of petrol and diesel, the issue of devising an appropriate mechanism to contain the impact of the excessive volatility in the international oil markets on.the domestic prices of the petrol and diesel is under the consideration of the Government.

Production of Petrex

† 2474. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given permission to use a liquid called green petrol (Pctrcx) in the vehicles as fuel;

(b) whether it is suitable for vehicles; and

(c) the details with regard to its production and distribution systems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, questions do not arise.

Valuation of companies

2475. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has sought to justify the amount paid by IOC for the purchase of shares of IBP by taking into account the replacement cost of retail outlets of IBP;

(b) if so, whether Government arc doing the valuation of companies in the oil and other sectors as well as on replacement cost basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.